

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. **7265**



Offered by:

SEN. MILLER P., 27th Dist. SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist. SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist. SEN. COHEN, 12th Dist. SEN. HASKELL, 26th Dist. SEN. MCCRORY, 2nd Dist. SEN. MOORE, 22nd Dist. SEN. WINFIELD, 10th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 817

File No. 16

Cal. No. 53

"AN ACT CONCERNING SENIOR CENTERS."

- After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and internal references accordingly:
- 3 "Sec. 501. Section 54-261 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):
- 5 (a) The Court Support Services Division, in conjunction with state6 wide experts in law enforcement, the treatment of sexual offenders and
 7 sexual assault victim services, shall, within available appropriations,
 8 develop a community response education program to be offered to
 9 neighborhoods and municipalities that have been notified pursuant to
 10 section 54-258 that a person who has registered under said section is or
 11 will be residing in that community.
- 12 (b) The purpose of such program shall be to assist neighborhoods,

SB 817 Amendment

senior centers and other facilities serving or housing senior citizens in such neighborhoods, parents and children to learn how to better protect themselves from sexual abuse and sexual assault. The program shall develop educational materials and community information resources on prevention and risk reduction concerning sexual abuse and sexual assault and the enforcement of requirements concerning the registration

- and supervision of sexual offenders and the notification of communities
- 20 where such offenders reside.

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- (c) The program may include the following:
- 22 (1) An initial community meeting following a community 23 notification, sponsored by the Court Support Services Division and held 24 in conjunction with the chief of police, chief elected officials, the 25 superintendent of schools and other municipal officials of the 26 community, to discuss the implementation of the statutory 27 requirements concerning the registration of a sexual offender and the 28 notification of the community where such offender resides, to provide 29 information on the crime or crimes involved and to provide information 30 on how the offender will be monitored by the Court Support Services 31 Division and the specific conditions of probation applicable to the 32 offender;
- 33 (2) Information on how and where concerned residents may report 34 observed violations by an offender of the conditions of such offender's 35 probation;
- 36 (3) Resources to educate families, [and] children <u>and senior citizens</u> 37 in the prevention and avoidance of sexual abuse and sexual assault and 38 for parents seeking supportive methods for discussing relevant issues 39 with their children;
- 40 (4) Resources on when and how a community may wish to establish 41 a network of "Safe Houses" for neighborhood children to use when they 42 seek safe shelter or the creation of a neighborhood block watch or crime 43 watch;

SB 817 Amendment

(5) Resources for police departments and boards of education to use in consulting with parents on appropriate school-based classroom programs stressing safety, prevention and risk reduction and to use in developing educational programs for parents to discuss relevant issues with their children; [and]

- (6) Resources for police departments and municipal officials to provide programs stressing safety, prevention and risk reduction for senior citizens living in the community or receiving services at a senior center or other facility located in the community; and
- [(6)] (7) Compilation and distribution of a list of child protective agencies, child guidance clinics and rape crisis centers for families seeking more in-depth counseling after a community notification has occurred.
- (d) The Court Support Services Division may apply for and receive grants from the federal government or any agency thereof or from any foundation, corporation, association or individual for purposes of the development of the community response education program under this section."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Sec. 501 | July 1, 2021 | 54-261